



Photo by MC2(SW) Kenneth R. Hendrix



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Left, Executive Officer Capt. Ted R. Williams presents an honorary tailhook certificate to actors Christian Slater, Zac Levi, Joel Moore and Kal Penn in the commanding officer's in-port cabin.

Above, actors Christian Slater, Kal Penn, Joel Moore and Zac Levi sign autographs for crew members on the aft mess decks.



Photo by MC2(SW) Kenneth Hendrix

SN Reyjhil Dela Cruz, right, explains the procedures of standing the helm watch on the bridge to actor Christian Slater.

USO Brings IKE Crew Hollywood Handshakes

By MC3(SW/AW) Holly Whitfill
5 Star Staff Writer

Actors Zac Levi, Joel David Moore, Kal Penn and Christian Slater visited crew members aboard the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) (IKE) as part of the USO Hollywood Handshakes Tour to share life experiences and sign autographs Tuesday.

USO tours are known for celebrities selflessly giving their time and talent, traveling across the world to boost the morale of service members in times of peace or war.

On this whirlwind trip, four Hollywood stars shared a common emotional ground, believing that the Sailors aboard IKE deserve unconditional respect and gratitude.

“My publicist called and asked if I wanted to do a USO tour and I said I’d love to,” said Levi. “I’d seen footage of Bob Hope doing USO tours way back in the day and I thought what an incredible opportunity for people who work in Hollywood to come out and meet our troops.”

They arrived out of the flat, hazy blue sky, aboard a carrier onboard delivery (COD) C-2A Greyhound and met Sailors

as they observed flight operations from the flight deck, toured various spaces and shopped at the ship’s store.

“This is a once in a lifetime experience,” said Moore. “I don’t know if we’ll ever do a tour in the future that we’ll be able to come to an aircraft carrier and be 10 feet away from an F/A-18 Hornet taking off.”

Slater, a cinematic patriot, shared that he was most impressed by the ship’s size, which he compared to a world famous monument in New York and its ability to operate.

“The ship is massive,” said Slater. “The fact that it’s larger than the empire state building is an incredible thing to conceive and is phenomenal. My fillings got knocked a little loose from the propulsion. It was mind blowing.”

The group hoped that coming and showing their recognizable faces would bring reassurance to the crew members that the world appreciates and is thankful for their service.

“You read up on the work Sailors are doing but it really isn’t until you get to experience part of that and stand out on the deck in 110 degree heat,” said Penn. “That really makes me respect even

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Courtesy photo

Admiral James Stavridis assumed command of the United States Southern Command on October 19, 2006. Admiral Stavridis is a 1976 distinguished graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and a native of South Florida.

Stavridis Nominated to Head NATO, U.S. European Commands

American Forces Press Services

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama Tuesday nominated Navy Adm. James Stavridis to serve as NATO’s supreme allied commander for Europe and as commander U.S. European Command, Pentagon officials said.

The dual command is responsible for the overall charge of NATO military operations, which includes identifying and requesting forces from NATO countries for wartime needs and peacetime joint training exercises. The alliance includes 42 member countries and 22 partner countries.

The appointment has no set length; the position previously has been held for as little as one year and for as long as eight. Supreme Headquarters Allied Power Europe has its headquarters at Cas-teau, north of Mons, Belgium.

Pending U.S. Senate confirmation, Stavridis will succeed Army Gen. Bantz J. Craddock, who assumed the commands in December 2006. NATO’s Defense Planning Committee already has agreed to Obama’s request to relieve Craddock and appoint Stavridis, according to a state-ment released by NATO today.

Stavridis currently commands U.S. Southern Command which overseas U.S. military operations in more than 30 Central and South American countries from headquarters in Miami. He took command there in October 2006 from Craddock as well. Stav-ridis’s replacement has yet to be identified.

Pentagon officials said the switch may take place as early as this summer, and that Craddock is likely to retire after nearly 40 years of military service.



Photo by MCSN Bradley Evans

Joel David Moore gives a crew member a hand shake on the flight deck.

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more all the work the men and women here are doing. Because you are here, so we can do what we do back in the states. You keep us safe and it’s an honor to be here and spend time with everyone.”

Sailors lined up throughout the second deck of the ship on the mess decks to get glimpses, photographs, autographs and handshakes with the celebrities.

That moment’s time and words with the crew members meant a lot to Aviation Elec-tronic’s Technician (AW/SW) Robert Letendre of Aviation Intermediate Maintenance De-partment, IM-3 Division, who was stoked about the idea of

meeting one of his all time fa-vorite actors, Christian Slater.

“Christian Slater is one of my wife’s and my favorite ac-tors,” said Letendre with a smile. “We both loved the movie ‘True Romance’ and I even had one of his old movie posters printed for him to autograph. My wife will be really excited when she sees the autographed pictures from him.”

Best known for his lead role in the hit NBC series “Chuck,” Levi was named one of Entertain-ment Weekly’s Top Thirty People Under Thirty in 2008 and will soon appear in “Al-vin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakuel.” Levi also appeared in “Big Momma’s House 2” with Martin Lawrence, the award-winning HBO comedy



Photo by MC2(SW) Kenneth R. Hendrix

Actor Kal Penn answers the phone in primary flight control.

series “Curb Your Enthusiasm” with Larry David and NBC’s “Less Than Perfect.”

Moore has appeared in more than a dozen cable and net-work series, lending his talents to popular TV shows such as “Six Feet Under,” “Bones” and “CSI.” His latest project, James Cameron’s epic adventure “Av-atar,” will hit theaters later this year. Moore’s other big screen hits include “Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story” starring Vince Vaughn, “Art School Confiden-tial” with John Malkovich and “Grandma’s Boy” with Doris Roberts.

Born in New York City, Slat-er made his big screen debut in the 1985 teen rebel movie “The Legend of Billie Jean” and went on to star in movie classics such

as “Pump Up the Volume,” “Heathers” and “Interview with the Vampire.” To date, Slater has starred in more than 30 ma-jor motion pictures and received a number of awards, including the Broadcast Film Critics As-sociation Award for his perfor-mance in “The Contender.”

Penn, recognizable world-wide for his contributions to pop culture comedies such as “Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle,” and dramas such as “The Namesake” recently made headlines for his appointment to the Obama Administration as an Associate Director of the White House Office of Public Liaison. The versatile actor has also appeared in network favor-ites “24” with Kiefer Sutherland and “House” with Hugh Laurie.


SPACE OF THE DAY



SAILORS
YN3(SW/AW) MINDI PARRIS,
NC2(SW) DENNIS MURPHY
YN3(SW) WHITNEY SISSON
YNSN TIAMECA HOLLINS

DEPARTMENT/DIVISION
ADMIN/X-1

RACK OF THE DAY



SAILOR
MM3 DANIEL CRAWFORD

DEPARTMENT/DIVISION
ENGINEERING/A

Weekly Fitness Plan of the Week Note

Develop a regular, year-round, fitness program to include aerobic physical exercise sessions at least three times per week consisting of at least 40 minutes of activity, including a minimum of 20 to 30 minutes of brisk aerobic exercise, a strength and flexibility component, and warm-up and cool down periods.

3M Question of the Day

What is a DANGER tag (red) used for?

Answer:
Prohibit the operation of equip-ment which could endanger per-sonnel, equipment, systems or components.



PROFILE/SPORTS





Hospital Corpsman

HM3(SW) David Dagana

Job Title:
Optician

Department/Division:
Health Services/Medical

Hometown:
Bronx, New York

Entered Navy:
May 31, 2007

Deployments:
Operation Enduring Freedom

“I see patients with eye complications and help correct visual defects by providing eyewear to Sailors to enable them to do their job. The greatest thing about my job is the satisfaction of my patients when they say “wow I can see much better.” It is really challenging being the sole optician but I have sense of accomplishment when patients are satisfied.”



Rivalries and Goals on the Rise in Stanley Cup Playoffs

By Jeff Klein
Times Digest

Alex Ovechkin versus Sidney Crosby in a Game 7 is a matchup made in hockey heaven. Their rivalry so far in the conference semifinals has been an aesthetic and dramatic success, and it seems to be sparking a renaissance in scoring in the N.H.L.

Consider this: in the 44 games that made up the first round of this year’s playoffs, the average number of goals per 60 minutes of play was 5.0 — a level consistent in the N.H.L. postseason for close to 15 years.

But the 60-minute average for the 22 games of the second round played through Monday had risen to 5.75 goals. That figure included the 41 minutes of overtime that Anaheim needed to beat Detroit on May 3. Without that overtime, the average was 5.9.

That is a big jump, and a heartening one for fans of more wide-open, creative play. It includes Monday’s 5-4 overtime gem in which the Capitals beat the Penguins to force Wednesday’s Game 7, as

well as the 7-5 festival of goals through which Chicago ousted Vancouver on Monday.

The second-round scoring average is not too far beneath the 6.0 average of the 1970s, although still a good deal below the 6.5 of the hyperactive ’80s.

This year’s second round is as different in feel from the first round as, well, the turbocharged Capitals-Penguins series is from the popgun Capitals-Rangers series, with its 1-0 games and alternating heroics from Rangers goaltender Henrik Lundqvist and Capitals goalie Simeon Varlamov.

Still, Game 7 in Washington promises to have plenty of postseason drama. Of the 41 goals in the series, Ovechkin and Crosby have scored or helped set up 23 — two men accounting for 56 percent of the scoring.

Historically, the Penguins have had the Capitals’ number. They have beaten them in six playoff series out of seven. In three of those losses, the Capitals held two-game leads, just as they did in this series.

Besides the expected high scoring and

lead changes, the drama could come from any number of story lines.

Ovechkin injured Pittsburgh’s high-scoring defenseman, Sergei Gonchar, who may return for Game 7.

Washington’s high-scoring-defense-man-gone-cold Mike Green was pondering whether to use the last surviving stick from a discontinued line. That stick was meant to go to the Hockey Hall of Fame.

Who will get the last word in the season-long trash-talk battle between Crosby and Ovechkin? Will Alexander Semin eat his earlier words about Crosby? Will Pittsburgh’s Evgeni Malkin emerge as the star who makes the difference? And can Varlamov’s fairy tale run continue, or will Penguins goalie Marc-Andre Fleury solve his problems?

Bruins Force Game 7

Mark Recchi had a goal and an assist, and the Boston Bruins beat the host Carolina Hurricanes, 4-2, on Tuesday to force Game 7 in their Eastern Conference semifinal series.

Marc Savard scored before leaving in the third period with a minor leg injury. Steve Montador and Chuck Kobasew also

connected, Patrice Bergeron had two assists and Tim Thomas stopped 31 shots.

“They came in tonight and kind of blew us out of the water,” Hurricanes defenseman Tim Gleason said.

The top-seeded Bruins led by 2-0 barely five minutes into the game and made it stand to win their second straight since falling behind by three games to one. Their reward: a trip to Boston for Thursday night’s Game 7, their first at home since losing to Montreal in 2004.(AP)

Ducks Win to Tie Series

Ryan Getzlaf and Corey Perry each had a goal and an assist and Jonas Hiller made 38 saves as the host Anaheim Ducks beat the Detroit Red Wings, 2-1, to force a seventh game in their Western Conference semifinal series.

Scott Niedermayer and Bobby Ryan added assists for the Ducks, who built a two-goal lead in the second period and stopped the Red Wings until Johan Franzen brought Detroit within a goal with 2 minutes 25 seconds to play.

Game 7 will be in Detroit on Thursday, with the winner facing the Chicago Blackhawks in the conference finals.

MLB SCORES		NHL PLAYOFFS		NBA PLAYOFFS	
TUESDAY		MONDAY		MONDAY	
White Sox 7, Cleveland 4	Philadelphia 7, L.A. Dodgers 3	Chicago 7, Vancouver 5		Dallas 119, Denver 117	
Baltimore 7, Tampa Bay 5	Pittsburgh 7, St. Louis 1	Chicago wins series 4-2		Denver leads series 3-1	
Toronto 5, Yankees 1	Mets 4, Atlanta 3	TUESDAY		TUESDAY	
Texas 7, Seattle 1	Cubs 6, San Diego 2	Boston 4, Carolina 2		Boston 92, Orlando 88	
Minnesota 6, Detroit 2	Milwaukee 6, Florida 3	Series tied 3-3		Boston leads series 3-2	